DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This office action is responsive to applicant's remarks received on September 15, 2010. **Claims 1, 3, 4, 7 & 9-12** are pending. **Claims 2, 5, 6 & 8** have been cancelled.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to amended **claims 1, 7, 9 & 10** have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9 & 10** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Petteruti et al. (US 6,409,401 B1 hereinafter, Petteruti '401) in combination with Weaver (US 20030160992 A1 hereinafter, Weaver '922).

Regarding claim 1; Petteruti '401 discloses an image processing apparatus (Fig. 1, Printer 10) comprising:

an input unit (Fig. 2, Host Terminal 52) which inputs image information including first image information to be printed on a recording medium (Fig. 1B, Media 16 i.e. The host terminal sends to the printer 10 commands and data that directs the printer controller 34 to print on media using the print mechanism 36. Column 4, lines 40-45);

and second image information to be stored in a storage device (Fig. 1B, RFID Circuit 16a) which is attached to the recording medium (i.e. The controller 34 operates the RFID encoder 22 to store digital information or data, which may be related to information printed by the print head 18 upon the same part of the media having the RFID circuit. Column 3, lines 44-52);

a printer (Fig 1, Printer 10) which prints an image on the recording medium to which the storage device is attached wherein the image is based on the first image information (i.e. The portable printer is used for printing on media and encoding RFID circuits coupled to such media in which the information printed on the media can be related to the information encoded. Column 1, line 66 thru column 2, line 3);

a writing unit (Fig 2, RFID (Read/Write) encoder 22) which writes the second image, first authentication information for printing a first level of the second image information and second authentication information for printing a second level of the second image information to the storage device attached to the recording medium (i.e. The RFID encoder 22 operates in accordance with programmed microprocessor controller 34 (FIG. 2) on the printed circuit board 24 to write data onto the RFID circuit. Column 3, lines 20-52);

Petteruti '401 does not expressly disclose a reading unit and user authentication as expressed below.

Weaver '922 discloses a reading unit (Fig. 3, ID Reader System 320) which reads the second image information, the first authentication information and the second authentication information which have been stored in the storage device attached to the recording medium on which the image based on the first information has been printed (i.e. ID Reader System 320 determines whether a user has

provided appropriate information, e.g., feature authorization information 160 provided by an RFID tag, to the printing device so that printing can be enabled with the associated feature. Paragraph 0029);

a user authentication information input unit (Fig. 7, Step 720) which inputs user authentication information (i.e. At Step 720, a determination is made as to whether the user is authorized access to one or more features. Paragraph 0047);

wherein said printer prints (Fig. 7, Step 770) an image based on the first level of the second image information read by said reading unit if the input user authentication information corresponds to the first authentication information, and prints an image based on the second range of the second image information read by said reading unit if the input user authentication information corresponds to the second authentication information (Fig. 7, Steps 710-770 i.e. At Step 710, information corresponding to user authorization is received. At Step 720, a determination is made as to whether the user is authorized access to one or more features. At Steps 730, the information is read by the reading device 320 of Fig 3. At Step 740 printing is enabled in accordance with the user authentication and printed at Step 770. Paragraphs 0047-0048).

Petteruti '401 and Weaver '992 are combinable because they are from same field of endeavor of network printer systems (Weaver '992 at "Field of Invention").

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the printer system as taught by Petteruti '401 by adding a reading unit and user authentication as taught by Weaver '992. The motivation for doing so would have been because it is advantageous to prevent unauthorized access to secure documents. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Petteruti '401 with Weaver '992 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claim 3; Petteruti '401 discloses a display unit (Fig. 2, Display Unit 28) which displays an image based on the second image information stored in the storage medium (i.e. Display unit 28 displays image information stored in the storage medium. Column 4, lines 7-32).

Regarding claim 4; Petteruti '401 discloses an instruction unit (Fig 2, Part of the Controller 34 – Not shown.) which instructs said printer to perform printing based on the content image displayed by said display unit (i.e. Fig. 2 shows where the display is coupled to input/output ports of the controller 34 wherein the controller instructs the printer to print and the information may be displayed on display #28. Column 4, lines 7-32).

Regarding claims 7 & 9-12; Claims 7 & 9-12 contain substantially similar features as that of claim 1. Thus, claims 7 & 9-12 are rejected on the same ground as claim 1. Petteruti '401 also discloses a computer readable program, stored in a computer-readable storage medium (i.e. Fig. 3 is a flowchart that shows the RFID encoding program (software) for the printer 10 wherein the program may be stored in memory of the controller 34, such as SRAM, FLASH, or external memory 37. Column 2, lines 4-8).

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARCUS T. RILEY whose telephone number is (571)270-1581. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:30-5:00, est.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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